

REMARKS

Claims 13 and 26 have been amended and claim 27 has been canceled. As a result, claims 1 – 26, 28 and 29 remain pending. Applicant addresses below each of the grounds of rejection applied to the claims.

Objections to the Drawings

In response to the objections to the drawings contained in Paper No. 7, Applicant submits herewith a corrected version of the drawings.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 18 and 21-25 were rejected in the office action under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 13, from which the rejected claims depend, has been amended herein in a manner believed to overcome the rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Igell et. al reference (WO 00/38782). Claim 27, which depends from claim 26, was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, applicant has amended claim 26 herein to incorporate the limitations recited by claim 27, with claim 27 having been cancelled. The rejection is traversed, however, and applicant reserves the right to file one or more continuation applications with claims reciting the same or similar subject matter as recited by claim 26 before this amendment.

Allowable subject matter

Claims 1-17, 19, 20, 28, and 29 have been allowed. Additionally, the office action indicated that claims 18 and 21-25 would be allowable if amended to overcome the section 112 rejections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such action. Please charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account 19-0743. The examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney at 847-432-7302 to discuss any questions that may remain with respect to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY E. STAHHMANN ET AL.

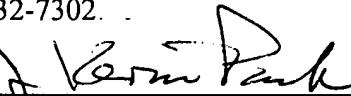
By their Representatives,

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
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Date

7-31-03

By


J. Kevin Parker

Reg. No. 33,024

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 31 day of July, 2003.

Name

GREG HANSON

Signature

